

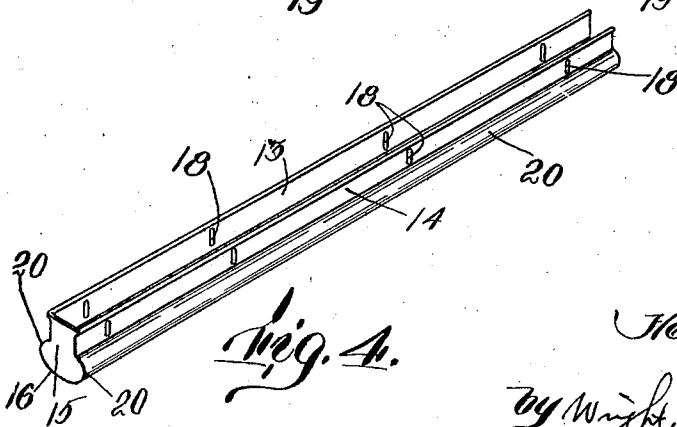
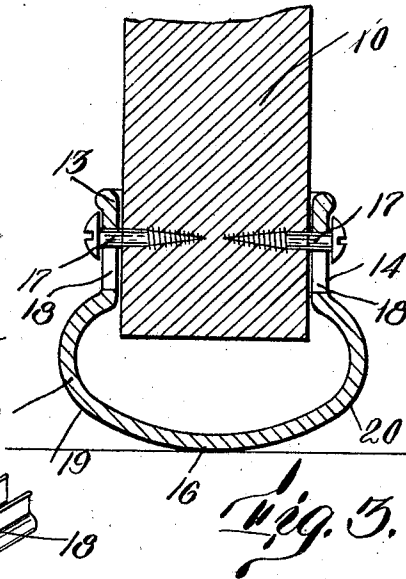
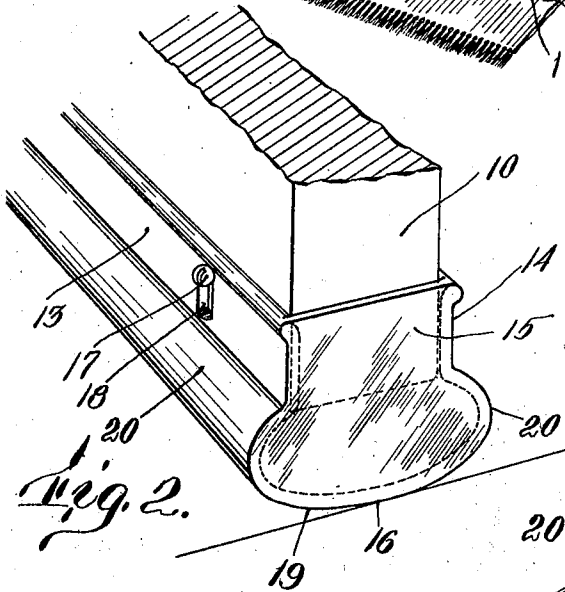
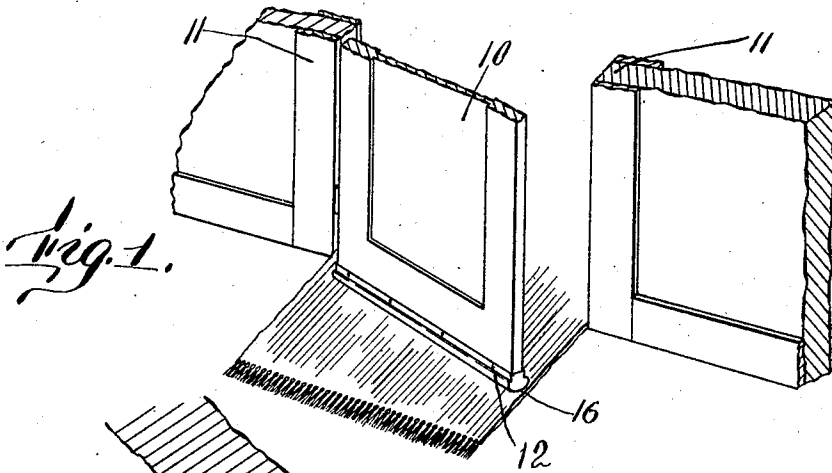
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H. V. POLLARD

THRESHOLD ELIMINATOR

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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

HENRY V. POLLARD, OF SOMERVILLE, MASSACHUSETTS.

THRESHOLD ELIMINATOR.

Application filed June 23, 1920. Serial No. 391,040.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, HENRY V. POLLARD, a citizen of the United States, residing at Somerville, in the county of Middlesex and State of Massachusetts, have invented new and useful Improvements in Threshold Eliminators, of which the following is a specification.

This invention relates to an attachment for doors, having for its purpose to close the space which ordinarily is closed by a raised threshold in the passageway in which the door is hung.

Raised thresholds are objectionable for various reasons, including among others, that they are defaced and worn away, and the adjacent floor surfaces also become rapidly worn by the shoes of passers-by, because floors near doorways and thresholds are walked upon more than any other part of the floor and because the presence of a threshold prevents rugs or other floor covering being used in doorways. Such defacement is highly objectionable when the floor and thresholds are made of polished hardwood; and results in the need for frequent refinishing and sometimes renewal of a threshold and attendant expense and inconvenience.

Another cause for objection is that persons passing through the doorway must take care to step over or squarely on a threshold to avoid being tripped or of slipping, as often happens when the edge of one's heel strikes the bevelled edge of the threshold.

The object of the present invention is to produce a device to be attached to a swinging door, and, with slight modification, to a sliding door as well, which will close the space usually closed by the raised threshold and will mount and slide over a rug or other floor covering, eliminating need of the threshold heretofore found necessary to block the space beneath the door when the latter is closed, is simple of construction and inexpensive to make; and may be applied to the door without removing the same from its hinges.

Referring to the drawings,—

Figure 1 is a fragmentary perspective of a passage-way with a door hung therein showing my invention attached to the lower end of the door.

Figure 2 is an enlarged fragmentary view of the door with my invention applied thereto.

Figure 3 is a cross section through a door

with my device attached thereto, showing the chamber formed in the device giving play thereto for over-riding obstructions.

Figure 4 shows my device detached from the door in perspective.

Referring now to the drawing in detail by reference numerals, the same numerals designating the same parts throughout the drawings; 10 designates a door, 11 the casing, in which the door is hung, while 12 designates in a general way the embodiment of my invention in a depending filler-piece attached to the lower end of a door. Such filler-piece may be made of any suitable construction and material, but is preferably of sheet metal, for instance, galvanized iron of such thickness as to be rigid, but not thick enough to be objectionably heavy. It is made with side walls 13 and 14, an end wall 15, and a bottom 16, forming a trough-like construction having one closed and one open end. The device is adapted to be placed on the lower end of a door with the open end at the hinge edge and the closed end on the swinging edge. When in place, it is secured to the door by means of suitable fasteners 17, as screws, nails, or the like, which are passed through elongated slots 18 vertically arranged in the side walls 13 and 14. The bottom 16 is slightly curved transversely of its length, affording a surface 19 which rises on both sides from an intermediate longitudinal line, and the lower portion 20 of the sides are bulged outward to permit greater rise of the bottom surface 19, without too steep an inclination for the purpose in view than would be possible if the sides were made parallel through their height.

The purpose of the curved surface is to facilitate the passage of the device over a rug or like obstruction.

The filler member 12, constructed, as set forth above, may be mounted on a door without removing the door from its hinges. To do so, the door is opened and the filler is slipped, open end foremost and with its sides embracing the bottom edge of the door, from the swinging edge toward the hinged edge of the latter, until arrested by the end wall 15. Finally the fastenings 17 are driven into the door in the upper ends of the slots 18, at such a height that the filler will clear the highest part of the floor over which the door swings, so that thereafter the filler will hang from the fastenings without at any time or at any point dragging on

the finished floor. A thin sheet or strip may be placed on the floor for the filler to rest on while the fasteners are being driven to provide the necessary clearance. Thereby
5 the filler is hung so that it closes the space between the door and the floor, while its hollow interior and the elongated slots allow it to rise in passing over floor coverings.

This device does away with all necessity
10 for a threshold in a doorway, wherefore I have called it a "threshold eliminator." It serves all the useful purposes, and avoids the unsafe and unsightly aspects, of a raised threshold; and saves money for the house-
15 holder by avoiding the necessity of frequent refinishing and occasional replacement of worn thresholds and adjacent floors, and by enabling floor covering to be laid in door-
20 ways where concentrated travel causes the greatest wear to occur.

Not only may the threshold eliminator be applied without unhooking the door, but it does not detract from the convenience, practicability or use of any door to which
25 it may be applied. Its use is not restricted to swinging doors for it may be applied to sliding doors as well; requiring no other modification for this purpose than suppression of the bulges 20 (possibly, though not
30 always necessarily), and the provision of a rising inclination at the outer end of its bottom.

The device is simple in construction and requires no mechanism and no other force
35 than that of gravity for operating it.

Having thus explained the nature of my said invention and described a way of making and using the same, although without attempting to set forth all of the forms in which it may be made or all of the modes of
40 its use, what I claim is:—

1. A device for closing the space between the lower end of a door and the floor comprising a rigid member having side walls and a bottom wall, said side walls having a
45 space between them to receive the lower end of the door, and having vertically arranged elongated slots therein, adapted to receive fastenings passing into the door in
50 positions enabling the member to hang normally close to the floor and to rise for clearing a floor covering; the said bottom wall being inclined upwardly from an intermediate longitudinal line toward and beyond the
55 side walls, and being joined to said walls by outwardly bulged portions.

2. The combination with a door, of a threshold eliminator consisting of a hollow rigid filler member having spaced apart side
60 walls adapted to admit the lower end of a door freely between them, and a transverse bottom wall; said side walls being bulged outwardly adjacent to the bottom wall, and the latter being gradually and continuously
65 inclined upwardly in both directions from an intermediate longitudinal line to the bulged parts of the side walls.

In testimony whereof I have affixed my signature:

HENRY V. POLLARD.